

FOREIGN BROADCAST  
INFORMATION SERVICE

FOIAb3b

COUNSEL SEES U.S. BEHIND ALLEN PROSECUTION

Lagos Nigeria Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 August 1964--N

(Text) A defense counsel, Mr. Omotosho, said today that the forces controlling the current seditious conspiracy trial do not originate from Nigeria. He argued that the prosecution is preoccupied with Marxism and that this points unmistakably to a foreign power. The counsel was winding up his 11-point submission to determine the admissibility of a disputed statement credited to one of the accused persons.

The counsel said that although he made reference to South Africa when he began his submission last week he is perfectly satisfied that the Nigerian Government is not in league with the Verwoerd regime. But, he went on, the United State Government is known to champion witchhunts against communists, Marxists, and black men wherever it weighs influence. What is happening now, he said, is all a piece of what has happened elsewhere. The current news is about Vietnam and the Congo, and the only government which takes the initiative in these attacks on the people is the U.S. Government.

Omotosho alleged that the influence of the NATO powers, particularly that of the United States, in Nigeria, makes the country unsafe. He declared: Right here in Lagos, in our lagoon, our territorial water, a U.S. tracking station is lying there. This is a floating station. There is another in Kano which is not floating. As if these are not enough, there is a monitoring service in Kaduna. These are the dangers besetting the country. It is from these sources that all this opposition to our constitution and these attacks on Nigerian citizens--as in this case--emanate.

Omotosho then urged the Ikeja Chief magistrate, (Mr. Wickliffe?) to reject the disputed statement and also at the proper time to reject the whole case of the prosecution. Tomorrow, the acting federal director of public prosecution, Mr. Cecil Miller, will make his own submission for the prosecution.